

UNM Department of Anthropology Graduate Application

Frequently Asked Questions

Is this the program for me?

In order to determine if the UNM Department of Anthropology Graduate program is a good fit for your interests, you should:

- 1) Review information about our programs (Archaeology, Ethnology, Evolutionary Anthropology, and Public Archaeology)
- 2) See which of our faculty you might be interested in working with by looking at their faculty profiles and research interests: <http://anthropology.unm.edu/people/faculty/index.html>
- 3) Contact faculty you are interested in working with to see if they are taking on new students
- 4) Start talking to advisors in your area of interest

How do I apply for the UNM Department of Anthropology Graduate Program?

Submit your application using the Department of Anthropology Application Procedures for the *Online Graduate Applications* instructions:

<https://anthropology.unm.edu/assets/docs/grad/anthropology-procedures-for-the-online-graduate-application.pdf>

Apply using the UNM Online Graduate Application at:

https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/fl_ApplicantLogin.asp?id=unmgrad

When is my application due?

Graduate Application Deadline: First Friday of January for Fall admission. We do not offer admission for Spring or Summer semesters.

Who are the graduate advisors in the UNM Department of Anthropology?

General Admission Advisement: Manny López-Aínza (mlopez12@unm.edu)

- Archaeology Graduate Advisor: Dr. Bruce Huckell (bhuckell@unm.edu)
- Ethnology Graduate Advisor: Dr. Suzanne Oakdale (soakdale@unm.edu)
- Evolutionary Anthropology Graduate Advisor: Dr. Ian Wallace (iwallace@unm.edu)
- Public Archaeology Advisor: Dr. Emily Jones (elj@unm.edu)

What are the curriculum requirements for graduate students?

The current curriculum requirements for graduate students can be found in the UNM Catalog at:

<http://catalog.unm.edu/catalogs/2021-2022/colleges/arts-sciences/anthropology/graduate-program.html>

Additional Information can be found in the Department of Anthropology graduate handbook(s), which can be found on our website under the Graduate tab, under Forms & Resources:

<https://anthropology.unm.edu/graduate/forms-resources.html>

What courses does the Department of Anthropology offer?

The UNM Catalog provides course description information on all courses that may be potentially offered through the department:

<http://catalog.unm.edu/catalogs/2021-2022/courses/ANTH/index.html>

You can also view current offerings as well as previous semesters by accessing the courses webpages under the Graduate tab on our website.

Is there any funding available for graduate students?

Incoming graduate applicants do not need to apply to the department for funding. The graduate application will provide the information we need. All accepted applicants will be considered for funding and funding will be offered if available or as it becomes available. If accepted, you may be asked to apply for certain UNM funding depending on the eligibility requirements.

For federal student loans, grants, or other federal financial aid, you should apply for FAFSA no later than **MARCH 1** for priority consideration, particularly if you are a New Mexico resident.

We also encourage students to apply for outside sources of funding such as the National Science Foundation, Fulbright, private and/or government funding.

For more information on funding, please review our current funding guide:

<https://anthropology.unm.edu/graduate/graduate-student-funding-guide-2021-22.pdf>

You should also look at the Funding Opportunities page under the Graduate tab on the website.

What should I put in my Letter of Intent?

It is particularly important to be explicit in choosing a subfield (Archaeology, Ethnology, Evolutionary Anthropology, or Public Archaeology). Applications are first sorted and then reviewed by the faculty of a chosen subfield. Applications without an explicit choice indicated may be sorted into the incorrect subfield. If you are unsure, please contact the subfield advisor.

The Letter of Intent is an important part of your application. It should reflect why you are a good candidate. Most letters are 1-2 pages long. There are no page or format requirements. There are some good guidelines about how to write a Letter of Intent (otherwise known as a Statement Letter) on the Graduate Studies website at <http://grad.unm.edu/resources/gs-forms/letter-of-intent.html>

Can I apply directly to the PhD Program even if I do not have a Master's Degree?

Yes, it is possible for students with a Bachelor's Degree to be admitted directly to the PhD "track" program and pick-up a Master's along the way. However, after entering our program, you do have to pass your masters and/or the PhD qualifying exam to continue on the PhD track.

What if I don't have an undergrad or Master's Degree in Anthropology?

You are not required to have a degree in Anthropology, though it will make your application more competitive. A rule of thumb is that you should have at least two 300-level classes (or above) in the field in which you apply. It is possible if your education is in a very similar area of study and/or you have lots of field or life experience in the field of study, that you may be considered. However, in this case you should check with the subfield advisor (Archaeology, Ethnology, Evolutionary Anthropology, or Public Archaeology). In general, Evolutionary Anthropology is usually looking for candidates with a background in Biological or Evolutionary Anthropology, or something very similar.

Can I apply to get just my Master's Degree?

Each field within Anthropology (Archaeology, Ethnology, Evolutionary Anthropology, or Public Archaeology) handles this a little differently and you should talk to your subfield advisor. For example, Ethnology has two tracks; the MA program and the PhD program, while Public Archaeology is only a Masters program, and for the most part Archaeology and Evolutionary Anthropology are only accepting PhD track students.

If I have a Master's Degree already, will it transfer?

Technically, UNM will allow us to accept up to 50% of graduate coursework, but it will be up to the graduate advisor in your subfield (and/or the subfield faculty) to determine what transfer coursework they will allow. Coursework used for a Master's Degree may not be used as transfer work for another Master's Degree, but it may be used for 50% of a PhD.

While students with a Master's Degree may be on the PhD "track" they must still either take a Master's exam or pass at a PhD Level (with a PhD Qualifying Exam) and must take the required coursework (or have it waived) to continue on to the PhD program.

What coursework is required to acquire a PhD?

Required coursework for a PhD is 48 credits (16 classes, unless waived) which can also include some independent study classes and depending on your subfield interest may include 3-6 core classes. Students are also required of dissertation credits. In addition, PhD students are required (post masters) to have a language and skill (in some cases two languages or two skills). Examples include Spanish and Statistics or GIS. Requirements vary by subfield and are described in the Graduate Handbook.

What is the minimum GPA requirement?

The minimum GPA is 3.2, but the average GPA (of student admitted in past years) is 3.6.

What GRE scores are required?

No test scores are required by any Anthropology program. However, each subfield has its own policy in regards to GRE scores:

- Archaeology: GRE scores are optional, but not required
- Ethnology: GRE scores are not accepted, but a writing sample is required
- Evolutionary Anthropology: Admissions is based on several factors, including letters of recommendation, personal statements, GPA, research interests, undergraduate coursework/preparation, and fit with faculty research directions. The GRE is not required for

application or admittance to the program. However, students who feel that their GRE scores will be helpful in evaluating their academic record are welcome to submit them.

- Public Archaeology: GRE scores are optional, but not required

Which GRE exam to take, General or Subject?

The general exam.

How do I sign up for the GRE?

Here is the link to the GRE webpage where you can schedule an exam and find practice exams:

<http://www.ets.org/gre/>

When should I take the GRE in order to meet the department's deadline?

No later than early December. It takes several weeks for GRE to process and send final scores to UNM in electronic batches and for UNM to download them for departments. We will accept the scores from a retake and take the highest score.

What if my GRE scores are old?

The department has no policy on this.

Do I need to send a writing sample?

In addition to required materials, you may include supplemental materials such as senior theses, other writing samples, or other test scores or any other additional information and/or materials that you think will enhance your application. The Department of Anthropology will consider these materials as part of the complete application packet.

What is the School Code and the Department Code for the GRE exam?

School Code: 4845

Department Code: 1701

What is the "Major Code" on the admission application?

MA-ANTH

MS-ANTH

PHD-ANTH

What is the "Graduate Unit" on the admission application?

Anthropology